



In re Appln. of KUROOKA et al.  
Application No. 09/920,930

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REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed March 26, 2004, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. In this Amendment, no claims are added and claims 1 and 6 are canceled so that claims 2-5 and 7-10 remain pending. No new matter has been added.

Claims 2 and 7 are rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claims 1 and 6, respectively. Claims 1 and 6 are canceled. In conformance, claim 4 is amended to depend from claim 2, and claim 9 is amended to depend from claim 7. To correct an inadvertent error in the original claims, claim 5 is amended to depend from claim 4, and claim 10 is amended to depend from claim 9, thus resolving antecedent basis problems in examined claims 5 and 10.

The Official Action objected to Figures 6 and 7. Pursuant to the objection, the Examiner is requested to approve the attached drawing amendment, which adds a legend to Figures 6 and 7 designating those figures as prior art.

The Official Action objected to claim 5. That objection is moot in view of the present Amendment.

The Official Action indicated claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Because amended claim 2 is in independent form, claims 2-5 are presently in form for allowance.

The Official Action rejected claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The Official Action notes that claim 7 recites storing data in "some" of the trace buffers, where only two trace buffers are claimed. Accordingly, claim 7 is amended to recite that if the number of bits of the data on the bus is no larger than a predetermined value, the control circuit stores the data on the bus in only one of the trace buffer memories. Because amended claim 7 is rewritten in independent form, and because amended claim 7 does not include the indefinite language on which the Section 112 rejection was based, claims 7-10 are presently in a form for allowance.

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Because all pending claims are in form for allowance, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 6/22/04  
AWF:tps

Amendment or ROA - Regular (Revised 9/03/03)